

FISHER AND MULLIGAN.

A DESPERATE ATTEMPT TO CARRY OHIO.

A SECOND EDITION OF "MULLIGAN LETTERS" WHICH

DOES NOT INJURE MR. BLAINE.

On September 21, 1872, Mr. Blaine and

Warren Fisher had a business settlement. Various maters had been from the subject of prolonged correspondence and controversies for several years, and in exchanging final records to full they agreed either to give up or to destroy all letters and papers on either side. Mr. Blaine kept his word and destroyed all the letters remaining in his possession. As he stood under oath before the Judiciary Committee it was then said that all letters on either side and all papers and records of papers should be given up, and I supposed that they were given up." Mr. Fisher was less scrupulous. In the course of his examination before the Judiciary Committee he admitted that one of the conditions of the settlement was an agreement that the letters should either be surrendered or destroyed. This was his understanding of the settlement; but instead of acting in the same he carefully preserved the letters in his office. In May, 1876, when Mr. Blaine was a prominent candidate for the Presidency, Mr. Fisher's book-keeper, Mulligan, appeared in Washington with a bundle of these letters and threatened to publish them if his re-election should be assured by Mr. Blaine. These letters, Mr. Blaine insisted, belonged either to Mr. Fisher or himself. Mr. Fisher declined to receive them and Mr. Blaine then took possession of what belonged to him and read the letters in his great speech in the House of Representatives. Eight years have passed; Mr. Blaine is the Republican candidate for the Presidency; and the Maine election has indicated his approaching triumph. A desperate effort must be made by the Democrats and their dependent allies to avoid a crushing defeat in Ohio. Fisher and Mulligan appear upon the scene with another batch of the paper letters which they agreed, twelve years ago, either to give up or to destroy.

THE OFFER ACCEPTED BEFORE OCTOBER 4.

In publishing this new edition of Mr. Blaine's private correspondence Fisher and Mulligan take it upon themselves to address "the people of the United States" and to proclaim it to be their duty to submit without comment the documentary evidence remaining in their possession. The originals of the letters they have placed in the hands of their lawyers, and they certify that the copies furnished to the press are accurate. The first two letters of the series are of importance as showing that the negotiations between Mr. Blaine and Fisher relating to the purchase and sale of the Little Rock bonds were practically closed on October 4, 1869, the date of the two letters in which he referred incidentally to his ringing made in April. He had accepted Fisher's offer to place a line of stock on substantially the same terms with others. This offer had been made several months before, and Mr. Blaine had already placed the stock among his friends in Maine. These were the only transactions that actually occurred in the course of Mr. Blaine's dealings with Fisher and Caldwell, and as the letters show, the bonds had been purchased, sold and paid for before the reference to the service accidentally rendered as speaker was made.

The letters follow:

AUGUSTA, Me., Oct. 4, 1869.
MY DEAR MR. FISHER.—I find enclosed \$10,000 check in payment of A. & P. Collier's account to you for the 20 per cent of the subscriptions already forwarded to you and on the following:\$5,000
A. W. Johnson, Belfast.....
5,000
T. C. L. Jones, Boston.....
5,000
Nathaniel P. Moore, Belfast.....
5,000
C. B. Hale, Boston.....
5,000

This makes \$15,000 in all. I have discovered that it is doubtful if I dispose of any more—but I shall know by Monday. So here will be no difficulty in getting the money. No one now knows from me that I have disposed of a single dollar in Maine. So here need be no embarrassment in taking up Mr. Collier's account again. Please again resort to A. & P. Collier, Boston, where Mr. Moore, trusty. J. G. BLAINE.

W. F. FISHER, in esp.

At the present time my letter to regard to Mr. Adams' case in Boston has not yet been read, and I think the suspension was at once ordered by him.

P. S.—I send only one copy this morning. Will send \$2,000 including \$500 on my bill.

AUGUSTA, Me., Sept. 26, 1869.

MY DEAR MR. FISHER.—I find enclosed \$2,000 check in payment of A. & P. Collier's account to you for the 20 per cent of the subscriptions already forwarded to you and on the following:

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